

into air, and into land, should be zero in extent. In the opposite extreme, suggested by several of the witnesses, these discharges must be the result of wise and logical management of the water, air, and land. In other words, one must use these resources, but with wisdom and with safety.

The evolution which will result I am quite sure, as to which of these extremes will prevail, will probably be somewhere in between. It will be the result of negotiations throughout the United States on all of the governmental levels. Out of these continuing deliberations will come, as has always come, a series of compromises related to money, to functional uses, related to natural resources as they may prevail.

The No. 4 area of agreement, and this I want to stress because it does concern a great many Members of Congress in various capacities: It is quite clear that technology to accomplish many of the objectives, no matter how defined, is available. In other words, the testimony is quite clear that one does not have to stop tomorrow morning and wait for research and development on all fronts. A technology is now available which could be put into play in a series of declining priority. I put the declining priority somewhat in this order.

There is a great deal of technology available which can be continued to be used on the municipal waste level, in discharges into water. It is true that we would continue to search for cheaper, more rapid methods of municipal waste treatment, but one need not delay a great many improvements throughout the United States which can rest on present technology. This technology, incidentally, has had a long evolution which rested on a very sensible set of precepts. The engineers in this field have used natural purification procedures in most artificial treatment plants which happen to be far the cheapest ones we have and which do the job quite well.

When one speaks of extending the degree of treatment of municipal wastes I think we have both the time and the opportunity to explore that in far greater detail. It is not obvious that tertiary treatment of municipal waste is going to be universally necessary or applicable, but if it becomes so it is possible to develop it while we continue current activity.

In second priority, in a declining direction, we know how to do a great many things in the cleaning of air, such as, the removal of particulate matter, the removal of certain other kinds of objectionable materials in the air with present technology. As will appear later, however, there are significant aspects of discharges into the air on which research and technology are seriously lacking.

In still further declining priority we have a vast area of industrial wastes in which solutions are not too obvious or in which solutions are too expensive or in which there is a slow rate of correction.

In other words, in summary with respect to the technology of today, much can be done with what we already know. The rate of correction rests upon the selection of the goal, the purposes for which we want to do it, and it rests, of course, upon dollars, as well as available manpower, although I do not stress this latter too heavily. I think manpower appears as necessity demands. The rate depends also, of course, on the development of institutional structure, largely of regional nature or of river basin areas.